
**Southwest Power Pool
WESTERN RELIABILITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Wednesday, July 27, 2022
7am to 10am MDT (8am to 11am CDT)
Hybrid SPP Auditorium and Net Conference**

• M I N U T E S •

1. Call to Order

Chair Wade Kiess (PRPA) called the meeting to order at 7:01 am MDT (8:01 am CDT) on Wednesday, July 27, 2022.

2. Attendance and Quorum Determination

CJ Brown (SPP) took attendance and confirmed the meeting was initially 1 short of quorum. Quorum was met at 7:25 am MDT (8:25 CDT).

3. Review and approval of WREC meeting agenda

The meeting agenda was reviewed and approved by the committee.

4. Approval of WREC Minutes from Thursday, April 14, 2022 Meeting

Wade Kiess reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting with the committee and requested a motion for approval as presented. Keith Carman (TGST) motioned to approve, seconded by Sam Rugel (TEP); with no further discussion or opposition, the motion was approved.

5. Review of Past Action Items

- a. **ACTION ITEM:** n/a

6. SPP EMS Upgrade Update

Tim Miller (SPP) updated the group on SPP's upgrade of its EMS; which is in the testing phase. The last big code releases are being received. Bug fix work is ongoing. Go-Live is planned for February or early March 2023. The architecture will remain much the same, with 1 EMS for East and West. SPP is moving to virtual servers with new system; which is a first for PROD EMS. This will help avoid the forced 5-6 year hardware refresh cycle. The background in the new EMS is dark and there are a few new buttons.

Whether SPP considered other vendors besides GE was discussed. Other vendors were considered, though not formally. SPP's systems are highly integrated with GE products and with the urgency of nearing end of life on the current system, the decision was made to stick with a GE EMS. Sam Rugel noted that Tucson broke out their distribution and transmission EMSs separately; both of which are OSI brand.

7. Western Markets Update

Yasser Bahbaz (SPP) discussed SPP's WEIS Market, SPP RTO West and Markets+ efforts with the committee. CSU joining WEIS August 1st will grow load to 5GW. The addition of PSCo, PRPA and Black Hills in April will push it to 13.5GW. WEIS interface pricing compared to other markets is competitive. Registration of a new entity into the WEIS is a 6 month process. SPP typically goes live with new entities in spring or fall month(s) to avoiding peak load times, and always on the first of the month when new model uploads occur. Jonathan Aust mentioned WAPA preferred to use a timeframe with a low hydro case.

DC Tie methodology was approved by the RSC this week and is pending SPP Board approval. They will be funded by the SPP Tariff; NITS, Point to Point, access charges, etc.

Keith Carman (TGST) asked about the timing of SPP West RTO go-live; is it 2025, 2026, 2027?

ACTION ITEM: CJ Brown (SPP) will get more information on tentative SPP West RTO go-live dates from Bruce Rew and add that topic to the October meeting's agenda.

Markets+ couples a Day-ahead component with the WEIS market. MPs are not required be under the SPP West RC. It is a flow based market that respects constraints. It does not have all of the benefits of a full RTO but is a step in that direction from WEIS. In the East, in 2014, SPP went straight from an EIS market to a full RTO Integrated Market and Consolidated Balancing Authority. Legacy BAs in the East footprint kept some level of generation control functions. Staff at Legacy BAs was generally maintained via repurpose, less retirement attrition, etc., after Integrated Market Go-Live. Seams with other RTOs in the West, migration from path to flow based transmission was discussed.

Sam Rugel (TEP) mentioned there are 3 competing initiatives, CAISO's EDAM, SPP's Markets + and Western Markets Exploratory Group (WMEG). Cost savings and reliability benefits of going straight into a full RTO vs. a Markets+ intermediate step was discussed. Several studies have been performed on the financial benefits of RTOs and SPP's Integrated Market. In 2021, [SPP Members realized \\$2.7 billion in cost savings](#) and benefits.

8. WRAP Update

Charles Cates (SPP) gave the group a general overview of the Northwest Power Pool, doing business as Western Power Pool, Western Resource Adequacy Program (WRAP), footprint and development timeline. WPP is the program administrator. SPP is the program operator. Cody Parker's Team is doing the software development. The PPSO has been published for participant feedback. SPP will likely have a real-time desk on the control room floor for WRAP once it goes live. WRAP is a complimentary layer over WEIS, not competing with WEIS. Accompanying PPT slides are posted with the WRWG Meeting Materials, <https://spp.org/Documents/67539/WRWG%20Meeting%20Materials%2020220726.zip>

9. EIM Project Update

Sam Rugel (TEP) shared that Tucson joined the EIM in May this year. TEP and Bonneville were originally scheduled to go-live in April. Operation of the market has been amazing to watch. Energy transfer limit settings are set just under MSSC. They often hit the limits when selling into or receiving from the market. TEP moved into a new building in October but not all functions are

in the new building yet. TEP's data center power down and fail-over to the backup discussed; during which the EIM holding TEP resources at their current output level went well.

Joe Natividad (EPE) noted they are working with Utilitcast and upgrading to MCG. MCG bought Versify. Training for EIM is planned for August – September, parallel ops November – December and Go-live in April. Work around for interconnection hiccups are in place.

Keith Carman (TSGT) has been in EIM for quite some time. Having gained experience with both CAISO and SPP, he believes a full RTO Market is where we need to be and encouraged the group to “rip off the bandaid.”

10. Other Items

Keith Carman (TSGT) suggested having polo shirts for SPP Western Services committees and staff. The group agreed it was a good idea and would like to have them to distribute at the October meeting if possible. Keith Carman (TGST) motioned to have SPP Western Services polo shirts made to be charged to this year's budget, seconded by Bob Staton (PSCo); with no further discussion or opposition, the motion was approved.

ACTION ITEM: CJ Brown (SPP) and Hamilton Bitely (SPP) to get info on the options for SPP Western Services polo shirts and have them at the October meeting if possible.

Sam Rugel (TEP) mentioned their neighbors have taken notice for the good job SPP has done for them. Tucson is looking at going Mod 30 flow-based this fall but would like to start participating with data submission before the requirements begin. Charles Cates (SPP) believes that is probably not feasible for the entire system. It's typically done line by line. Probably not until Go-Live, July 2025, would SPP be ready to take AARs. In the West, it is subject to TSPs, which SPP is not in the West.

Keith Carman (TGST) expressed the benefit of being in person and the after-hours networking opportunity it provided last night. Joe Natividad (El Paso Electric) complimented the SPP facilities and staff. This was his first visit to Little Rock.

11. Summary of Action Items

- a. **ACTION ITEM:** CJ Brown (SPP) will get more information on tentative SPP West RTO go-live dates from Bruce Rew and add that topic to the October meeting's agenda.
- b. **ACTION ITEM:** CJ Brown (SPP) and Hamilton Bitely (SPP) to get info on the options for SPP Western Services polo shirts and have them at the October meeting if possible.
 - i. Coffee Mugs also to be brought to the October meeting.

12. Future Meetings

The October meeting will be in person, date/time TBD, in coordination with the WRWG.

<u>Tentative Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Host</u>
October 13, 2022	8am-10am MT	Platte River

Tentative October Meeting Topics

- Winter Assessment Data
- 2023 Meeting Dates
 - 2 in person, 2 hybrid?
 - At least once per year in Little Rock at SPP to maximize SPP staff involvement; maybe in April.
- SPP West RTO Potential Go-Live Dates
- Ambient Adjusted Ratings (AAR) - Go-Live July 2025

13. Adjournment

Wade Kiess called for a motion to adjourn open meeting at 9:50 am MDT (10:50 CDT). Keith Carman (TGST) motioned to approve, seconded by Bob Staton (PSCo); with no further discussion or opposition, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamilton Bitely on behalf of CJ Brown, WREC Staff Secretary

Attendance:

In-Person:

Wade Kiess (PRPA, WREC Chair)
Denton McGregor (BHE, WREC Vice Chair)
Bob Staton (PSCo)
Gayle Nansel (WAPA)
Joe Natividad (El Paso Electric)
Keith Carman (Tri-State)
Sam Rugel (TEP)
Calvin Dacus (TEP)
Steve Szablya (PSCo)

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CJ Brown (SPP, WREC Staff Secretary)
Hamilton Bitely (SPP)
Brian Strickland (SPP)
Charles Cates (SPP)
Cody Parker (SPP)
Chad Hankins (SPP)
Derek Hawkins (SPP)
Drew McGilvray (SPP)
Tim Miller (SPP)
Yasser Bahbaz (SPP)

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WebEx:

Chris Bultsma (WAPA)
Hank Adair (Farmington)
Jonathan Aust (WAPA)
Shane Sanders AEPCO
Warren Rust (CSU)
Kyle Clanney (WAPA)
Linda Jacobson-Quinn (FEUS)

Michael Houglum (TSGT)
John Roemen (WAPA)
Steve Ashbaker (WECC)
Steven Owen (PSCo)
Mike Shultz (CSU)
Ben Hammer (WAPA)
Clifford Franklin (Sunflower)